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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<b>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> :</b> <b>A61K 51/08, 51/12, 51/10</b>	<b>A1</b>	<b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 99/12579</b> <b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 18 March 1999 (18.03.99)
<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US98/18685 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 8 September 1998 (08.09.98) <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 08/925,213                      8 September 1997 (08.09.97)                      US <b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> THE GENERAL HOSPITAL CORPORATION [US/US]; 55 Fruit Street, Boston, MA 02114 (US). <b>(72) Inventors; and</b> <b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> ELMALEH, David, R. [-/US]; 38 Hartman Road, Newton, MA 02159 (US). FISCHMAN, Alan, J. [US/US]; 1 Longfellow Place, Boston, MA 02114 (US). BABICH, John, W. [-/US]; 438 Tildero Road, Scituate, MA 02066 (US). <b>(74) Agents:</b> CELLA, Charles, H. et al.; Foley, Hoag & Eliot, LLP, One Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109 (US).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
<b>(54) Title:</b> IMAGING AGENTS FOR EARLY DETECTION AND MONITORING OF CARDIOVASCULAR PLAQUE		
<b>(57) Abstract</b>  The invention provides imaging agents comprising a label in association with a plaque specific targeting molecule. Methods for using the imaging agents to diagnose or monitor plaque formation and growth and kits containing the cardiovascular agents or components suitable for production of the imaging agents are also provided.		